

Shoot, man, people ask me, in the toughest days of my Presidency, weren't there days that I regretted it? I said, regretted it? Are you kidding me? Another turn in the road and I could be home doing \$200 divorces and deeds and stuff. [Laughter] This is the cost of doing business. The Republicans have decided to impose a certain cost of doing business if you want to be a Democrat and be President. I wouldn't take the world for it. I've had a wonderful time.

But I'll tell you what, on the good days and the bad days, I wanted everybody along for the ride. And that's another thing about this prosperity, we need to take everybody along. That's what Jon will do, and that's what Al Gore will do.

Thank you very much.

NOTE: The President spoke at 2:47 p.m. at a private residence. In his remarks, he referred to U.S. Senatorial candidate Jon Corzine and his wife, Joanne; luncheon hosts Hilary Bollon and Orin Kramer; Hudson County Executive Robert C. Janiszewski; State Senators Raymond J. Lesniak and Byron M. Baer; State Assemblyman Charles (Ken) Zisa; State Assemblywoman Loretta Weinberg and Mayor Sharpe James of Newark, NJ, cochairs, Corzine campaign; Rev. Calvin McKinney, president, General Baptist Convention of New Jersey; Mayor Paul Fader of Englewood; Senator Robert G. Torricelli, chair, Democratic Senatorial Campaign Committee; luncheon co-chair Deborah Lynch; and Gov. George W. Bush of Texas. This item was not received in time for publication in the appropriate issue.

### **Statement on the Senate Vote on Appropriations Legislation** *June 30, 2000*

I am deeply disappointed that today the Senate passed a Departments of Labor, Health and Human Services, Education, and Related Agencies appropriations bill that fails to make crucial investments in our Nation's future. While the Senate bill provides more acceptable funding for some programs than the House version, it relies on unacceptable spending cuts and falls short on critical funding for education, health care, and worker training. The Senate bill invests too little in improving our schools and demands too little from them; fails to provide funds to reduce

class size and repair aging schools; includes a fatally flawed so-called patient protection provision that excludes over 110 million Americans from protections and actually eliminates some of the limited accountability provisions now in State law; bankrupts the Social Services Block Grant, drastically reducing services to abused children, the elderly, and the disabled; and shifts funds from the State Children's Health Insurance Program, undermining the bipartisan agreement passed by Congress in 1997 to insure millions of low income children.

This bill also shortchanges vital health care programs, including domestic and global HIV/AIDS prevention and treatment, mental health and substance abuse services, family planning, health care access for the uninsured, training for health professionals in children's hospitals, nursing home quality, and oversight of Medicare contractors. The bill fails to guarantee funding for critical education priorities such as reducing class size and making urgent repairs to our schools, including Native American schools. It underfunds programs that would strengthen accountability and turn around failing schools, expand before-school and after-school opportunities, assist low income students in preparing for college, help bridge the digital divide, improve teacher quality, and expand English language/civics education programs for adults. The bill also denies adequate resources for training programs to help unemployed workers and low income youth train for and find jobs, assistance to help more low income fathers work and support their children, efforts to ensure workplace safety and enforce domestic labor laws, and initiatives to address illegal and abusive child labor practices abroad.

Finally, I am deeply disappointed that the Senate chose to follow the House's imprudent action to block the Department of Labor's standard to protect our Nation's workers from ergonomic injuries. After more than a decade of experience and scientific study and millions of unnecessary injuries, it is clearly time to finalize this standard.

For these reasons, as well as for others, this bill is unacceptable. I will veto this bill and any other bill that fails to provide necessary resources for education, health care,

worker training, and other vital initiatives. We need to work on a bipartisan basis to develop a bill that strengthens our schools, adequately funds public health priorities, addresses the needs of our Nations' workers, and provides for other important national priorities while honoring our commitment to fiscal discipline.

NOTE: This item was not received in time for publication in the appropriate issue.

### **Statement on Funding To Hire Highly Qualified Teachers**

*June 30, 2000*

Today Secretary Riley announced the award of \$1.3 billion to continue on the path to hiring 100,000 new, highly qualified teachers as part of my class size reduction program. These funds will allow States to place more high-quality teachers in smaller classes in the early grades, so that approximately 1.7 million children can receive the personal and academic support they need. The Vice President and I have a longstanding commitment to ensure that all children have access to a first-class education, and these grants provide support to State and local communities to work toward this goal by investing in what works. Unfortunately, Republicans in Congress are rejecting this proven strategy of investing in what works and insisting on accountability for results in favor of unfocused block grants with little or no accountability. I urge Congress to reverse its recent actions and enact full funding to reduce class sizes in the early grades, strengthen accountability and turn around failing schools, expand before-school and after-school opportunities, assist low income students in preparing for college, help bridge the digital divide, improve teacher quality, and expand English language/civics education programs for adults.

NOTE: This item was not received in time for publication in the appropriate issue.

### **Notice—Continuation of Emergency With Respect to the Taliban**

*June 30, 2000*

On July 4, 1999, I issued Executive Order 13129, "Blocking Property and Prohibiting Transactions with the Taliban," to deal with the unusual and extraordinary threat to the national security and foreign policy of the United States posed by the actions and policies of the Taliban in Afghanistan. The order blocks all property and interests in property of the Taliban and prohibits trade-related transactions by United States persons involving the territory of Afghanistan controlled by the Taliban.

The Taliban continues to allow territory under its control in Afghanistan to be used as a safe haven and base of operations for Usama bin Laden and the Al-Qaida organization who have committed and threaten to continue to commit acts of violence against the United States and its nationals. For these reasons, I have determined that it is necessary to maintain in force these emergency authorities beyond July 5, 2000. Therefore, in accordance with section 202(d) of the National Emergencies Act (50 U.S.C. 1622(d)), I am continuing the national emergency declared on July 4, 1999, with respect to the Taliban. This notice shall be published in the *Federal Register* and transmitted to the Congress.

**William J. Clinton**

The White House,  
June 30, 2000.

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NOTE: This notice was published in the *Federal Register* on July 5. This item was not received in time for publication in the appropriate issue.